

SUNSHINE COLUMN

NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF INTER-
NATIONAL SUNSHINE SOCIETY.

Mrs. J. M. RANSIER, State President, Hendersonville, N. C.

MRS. RANSIER'S LETTER.

Miscellaneous Sunny Suggestions From Sunshine Headquarters.

Is it worth while that we jostle a brother,
Bearing his load on the rough road of life;
Is it worth while that we jeer at each other
In blackness of heart, that we war to the knife?
God pity us all in our pitiful strife.

God pity us all as we jostle each other;
God pardon us all for the triumphs we feel
When a fellow goes down 'neath his load on the heather
Pierced to the heart; words are keener than steel
And mightier far for woe than for weal.

Were it not well in this brief little journey
On over the isthmus, down into the tide,
We give him a fish instead of a serpent,
Ere folding the hands to be and abide
Forever and aye in dust at his side?

Is it worth while that we battle to humble
Some poor fellow down, into the dust?
God pity us all! Time eft soon will tumble
All of us together, like leaves in a gust,
Humbled, indeed, down into the dust.

—Joaquin Miller.

It is calculated that the cost, including the property in this Eastern war, is two million dollars a day. When we think of the suffering and needy to whom all but a little of this world's goods are denied, and who might be clothed and fed and educated with this amount, it at least ought to make us pause and think. Then when we think of the thousands and thousands of lives that are being slaughtered, everyone of them some mother's child, we think a little deeper still, and echo the words of Joaquin Miller: "Is it worth while?" Not that it is not worth while to always defend the right, but in this day and age of supposed civilization, is so much bloodshed necessary?

Let us bring our thoughts nearer home. Who has not seen, no matter how small the community in which he lives, men or women who are so in love with themselves, admire their own attainments to such an extent, that they wish to be the prominent figure at every meeting, in every public work or demonstration of any kind? In fact, will not take hold of any good work unless they are leaders. I am sure you have seen just such. I have. They are pretty well scattered all over our loved America, and I suppose "across seas" also,

only I have not been over there to see them; but as human nature is said to be the same the world over, I take it for granted that they are there too.

Why, I've known girls, yes, women, who wouldn't do Sunday-school work unless they were organists; so they were allowed to play, although the suffering hearers who had anything of a musical ear, would wish for cotton or wool or anything in their ears to stop the hearing of the awful discords inflicted upon them. Yet, thought tact, on account of social position, or desire for numbers, the girl or woman still played. How many in every community hold positions where others could do much better if it was not a question of fearing to offend?

Then take the other side. As soon as one gets really enthused over some good work and undertakes to interest others or earn the commendation, "she hath done what she could," how many in the community are ready to criticise every effort; to find fault with every move; to spoil the good effect of everything done? The proneness to give a "serpent" instead of a "fish" is apparent in every community; "to jostle each other," "jeer at each other," "battle to humble." Oh, our "pitiful strife!"

Why cannot those who really desire good work together for it?

WANTED HELP, MALE AND FEMALE.

Let's give the sun a little help
In clearing clouds away;
A cheerful word or two may serve
To brighten up a day.

Perhaps a smiling face is all
Some dismal scene requires
To make it fair, to make it what
Some yearning soul desires.

Perhaps a little song of cheer
Will spread the clouds apart
And carry new encouragement
To some poor aching heart.

* * * * *

Who cannot sing may smile or say
A cheerful word or two.

* * *

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Do you want the Index? Write me.

MACBETH, Pittsburgh.

given by the State president, Mrs. J. M. Ransier. Will you not form a Sunshine Circle in your community? It will broaden your character, enlarge your Circle of usefulness, make your community better and happier, and be "worth while" to yourselves and your State.

One of our Farmer Circle has met with a grave accident. He has shot off part of his right foot. From last accounts he is doing well, but he needs a pair of crutches. Has anyone a pair they can lend him? He is fourteen years old and has our sympathy, but the sympathy can be best expressed just now with a pair of crutches. Who has a pair to pass on? Write to State president for his address. No addresses are given in these columns because people take unfair advantage, when they are given, but addresses will be gladly furnished to any who are interested.



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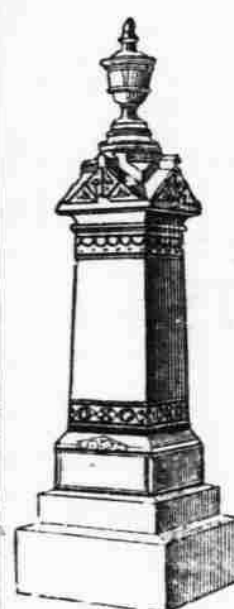
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